

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 7, 2010. Claims 1 to 9, 13 to 18, 20, 39, 58, and 77 to 78 are in the application, of which Claims 1, 20, 39 and 58 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim 39 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reason that the rejected claim is tied to different statutory classes (e.g., a printer and a target device). Nevertheless, independent Claim 39 has been amended so as to specify use of a computer, thereby accentuating the tie-in to another statutory class. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 7, 13 to 18, 20, 39 and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent 5,625,758 (Schneider) in view of U.S. Patent 5,402,361 (Peterson) and U.S. Patent 5,699,450 (Stearns). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The present claims generally concern arrangement of print data according to a layout for the print data, wherein the print data is printed by a printer onto a recording medium, and in which the recording medium is thereafter processed by a target device. The target device is different from the printer. In example embodiments described in the specification, for example, the printer is a color printer, whereas the target device is a color measuring device.

According to one aspect, a layout of print data is determined based on compatible capabilities between the printing capabilities of a printer and the processing

capabilities of a target device. In a case where the target device is a flatbed scanner, color patches are two-dimensionally located on the recording medium. In a case where the target device is a strip reader, color patches are one-dimensionally printed on the recording medium in the layout and a separator is located between brighter patches of the color patches.

By virtue of this arrangement, it is ordinarily possible to print color patches in a manner that facilitates reading of the color patches by the target device.

Referring specifically to the claim language, independent Claim 1 is directed to a method for arranging print data according to a layout of the print data, wherein the print data includes color patches and is printed by a color printer onto a recording medium in which the recording medium is processed by a target device comprising a color measuring device different from the printer. Printing capabilities of the printer are determined, via communication with the printer, wherein the printing capabilities include a designation of a valid area on the recording medium on which the printer can print. Processing capabilities of the target device are obtained from the target device, wherein the processing capabilities are obtained from the target device via communication with the target device, wherein the processing capabilities include a designation of a printable area on the recording medium for which the target device has processing capabilities for processing properly, and further include a minimum distance of separation between color patches and a minimum size for the color patches. A layout of the print data is determined based on compatible capabilities between the printing capabilities of the printer and the processing capabilities of the target device, wherein, in a case where the target device is a flatbed scanner, the color patches are two-dimensionally located on the recording medium, and in a case where the target device is a strip reader, the

color patches are one-dimensionally printed on the recording medium in the layout and a separator is located between brighter patches of the color patches. Print data for printout by the printer is arranged in accordance with the determined layout.

Independent Claims 20, 39 and 58 are directed to an apparatus, a negotiation controller and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1.

The applied art, namely Schneider, Peterson and Stearns, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or suggest the arrangement set out in the claims herein. In particular, the applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the claimed feature of determining layout of the print data based on compatible capabilities between the printing capabilities of the printer and the processing capabilities of the target device, wherein, in a case where the target device is a flatbed scanner, the color patches are two-dimensionally located on the recording medium, and in a case where the target device is a strip reader, the color patches are one-dimensionally printed on the recording medium in the layout and a separator is located between brighter patches of the color patches.

Schneider is seen to disclose the printout of color measurement fields for adjusting color. According to Schneider, the printed measurement fields may include locations with negative type for regulating the register or, in the case of offset printing, the printed measurement fields may include half-tone areas in one or a plurality of colors which are printed on top of one another. See Schneider, col. 5, line 54 to col. 6, line 6.

Peterson is seen to disclose a host system that receives information transmitted by a densitometer apparatus. According to Peterson, the information received by the host system may identify a particular laboratory establishing communication, the

model number of the particular densitometer associated with the laboratory, or the current date and time. Such information can be used when displaying data to a user. See Peterson, col. 34, ll. 29 to 55.

Stearns is seen to disclose the printing of a color test pattern. The color test pattern includes a plurality of color patches, which may be printed along the edge of a belt, drum or paper sheets. According to Stearns, the color patches may be produced on the belt as a two-dimensional matrix of color patches for two-dimensional color patch imaging and information processing. See Stearns, col. 8, ll. 26 to 51.

However, none of Schneider, Peterson and Stearns is seen to disclose or suggest the feature of determining layout of the print data based on compatible capabilities between the printing capabilities of the printer and the processing capabilities of the target device, wherein, in a case where the target device is a flatbed scanner, the color patches are two-dimensionally located on the recording medium, and in a case where the target device is a strip reader, the color patches are one-dimensionally printed on the recording medium in the layout and a separator is located between brighter patches of the color patches.

In light of the above-noted deficiencies of the applied art, independent Claims 1, 20, 39 and 58 are believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

No other matters are being raised, and it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael K. O'Neill
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10104-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FCHS_WS 5414333v1.doc